

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

IN RE: TERRORIST ATTACKS ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001	03 MDL 1570 (RCC) ECF Case RICO STATEMENT applicable to Yeslam Bin Laden
--	---

*This document relates to: World Trade Center Properties, L.L.C., et al. vs. Al Baraka
Investment and Development Corporation, et al.
04 CV 07280 (RCC)*

**RICO STATEMENT
APPLICABLE TO YESLAM BIN LADEN**

Based on information currently available, plaintiffs submit this RICO statement pursuant to the Case Management Order dated June 15, 2004 for defendants Yeslam Bin Laden.

Given the vastly complicated nature of the conspiracy and other wrongdoing that led to the events of September 11, 2001, much information is presently unavailable to plaintiffs, absent discovery. Plaintiffs therefore reserve the right to amend this RICO statement as information is learned and verified and after discovery is obtained.

1. The unlawful conduct is in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1962 (a), (c) and/or (d).
2. The name of the defendant to whom this RICO statement pertains is Yeslam Bin Laden and the alleged misconduct and the basis of liability for said defendant is indicated on the chart attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
3. Not applicable. All known wrongdoers are named as defendants in this action. Given the vastly complicated nature of the enterprise and conspiracy and other wrongdoing that led to the events of September 11, 2001, however, much information is unavailable to plaintiffs, and the identities of other wrongdoers may be revealed through discovery. Plaintiffs therefore reserve the right to amend this RICO statement as information is learned and verified and after discovery is obtained.
4. The damages sustained for which each defendant is liable include, the total destruction of One World Trade Center, Two World Trade Center, Four World Trade Center, Five World Trade Center and related subgrade spaces and Seven World Trade Center; lost rental income, business interruption and other related losses; property damage to other of plaintiffs' properties; environmental and remediation expenses; potential liability, indemnification, contribution and other payments to third parties for alleged bodily

injury, wrongful death, property damage and other claimed injuries; and related costs, professional and other fees, and expenses.

5. (a) list of predicate acts and specific statutes violated:

conspiracy to commit murder	NY CLS Penal § 105.15; NY CLS Penal § 125.25(xi)
conspiracy to commit arson	NY CLS Penal § 105.15; NY CLS Penal § 150.15
fraud with identification documents	18 U.S.C. § 1028
mail fraud	18 U.S.C. § 1341
wire fraud	18 U.S.C. § 1343
financial institution fraud	18 U.S.C. § 1344
relating to unlawful procurement of citizenship or naturalization papers	18 U.S.C. § 1425
relating to the unlawful reproduction of naturalization or citizenship papers	18 U.S.C. § 1426
relating to the sale of naturalization or citizenship papers	18 U.S.C. § 1427
obstruction of justice	18 U.S.C. § 1503
obstruction of a criminal investigation	18 U.S.C. § 1510
obstruction of state or local law enforcement	18 U.S.C. § 1511
Travel Act	18 U.S.C. § 1952
fraud or misuse of visa permits or other documents	18 U.S.C. § 1546
illegal transactions in monetary instruments	18 U.S.C. § 1956
money laundering	18 U.S.C. § 1957
defrauding the US Government	18 U.S.C. § 371
filing false or materially false tax returns	26 U.S.C. § 7206(1), (2)
engaging in a corrupt endeavor to impede and impair the due administration of the internal revenue laws	26 U.S.C. § 7212(a)

(b) dates of, the participants in, and a description of the facts surrounding the predicate acts

DATES	PARTICIPANTS	FACTS
early 1990s to 9/11/2001	Yeslam Bin Laden	Yeslam Bin Laden conspired to support terrorism and to obfuscate the roles of the various participants and conspirators in Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda, which conspiracy culminated in the September 11, 2001 Attacks;
early 1990s to 9/11/2001	Yeslam Bin Laden	Yeslam Bin Laden used banking and financial operations to knowingly and intentionally provide financial services and materially support to al Qaeda and its members, as well as organizations which it knew were providing material support to the Enterprise.
early 1990s to 9/11/2001	Yeslam Bin Laden	Yeslam Bin Laden undertook the above-named actions as part of a conspiracy to commit murder and arson, in that they knew that the Enterprise in which they were participating, Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda, planned to and would commit an act of deadly aggression against the United States in the near future, using the resources and support it supplied;
early 1990s to 9/11/2001	Yeslam Bin Laden	Yeslam Bin Laden agreed to form and associate itself with the Enterprise and agreed to commit more than two predicate acts, <i>i.e.</i> , multiple acts of murder and arson, in furtherance of a pattern of racketeering activity in connection with the Enterprise.

(c) See Exhibit "A".

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) The predicate acts form a pattern of racketeering in that they are continuous, and are a part of the Enterprise's regular way of doing business Yeslam Bin Laden consistently, evenly constantly, laundered money, filed false tax returns, and otherwise impeded

and impaired the administration of the tax laws as part of their scheme to conduit money to terrorists, and yet obfuscates their support of Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda. Such money laundering was in furtherance of a conspiracy to commit murder and arson which culminated in the September 11, 2001 Attacks.

- (g) The predicate acts relate to each other (horizontal relatedness) as part of a common plan because each act of money laundering allowed Yeslam Bin Laden to surreptitiously provide funds to terrorist organizations, including al Qaeda, which conspiracy culminated in the September 11, 2001 Attacks.
6. (a) The enterprise (the “Enterprise” or “Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda”) is comprised of the defendants named in the Complaint, and is a collection of persons, organizations, businesses, and nations associated in fact and purpose.
- (b) The Enterprise has its origins in the defeat of the Soviets in Afghanistan in the late 1980s, when Osama Bin Laden (“Bin Laden”) formed an organization called “The Foundation” or “al Qaeda.” Al Qaeda was intended to serve as a foundation upon which to build a global Islamic army. The structure of the Enterprise is an association in fact with common and complex goals that consist of far more than the mere desire to perpetrate the acts of racketeering outlined herein. Rather, the Enterprise utilizes acts of racketeering to further its overall common purposes of: (i) spreading a particularly virulent brand of radical, conservative Islam; (ii) eliminating Western influences in Islamic countries, including Western influences that are perceived to keep in power repressive Arab regimes that are not true to Islam; and (iii) punishing Israel, and the United States for its perceived support of Israel. Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda does not feature a centralized hierarchy, because the lack of a centralized hierarchy is essential to the Enterprise’s clandestine nature, its flexible, even nimble operations, and thus its success. Therefore, although al Qaeda had its own membership roster and a structure of “committees” to guide and oversee such functions as training terrorists, proposing targets, financing operations, and issuing edicts, the committees were not a hierarchical chain of command but were instead a means for coordinating functions and providing material support to operations. Yeslam Bin Laden fits neatly into this framework by facilitating the transfer of money for and providing funding to and otherwise providing material support for the members of the Enterprise who engaged in the Attack by engaging in a course of conduct that included money laundering and tax evasion. At the time of the September 11, 2001 Attacks, al Qaeda’s annual income was approximately \$50 million and its assets over a ten-year period ranged between \$300 and \$500 million dollars. Al Qaeda relies upon a global network of banks, financial institutions and charities, including Yeslam Bin Laden, and illegal activities (including narcotics trafficking) to generate material support to continue its terrorist operations.
- (c) No.
- (d) Yeslam Bin Laden is associated with the Enterprise.

- (e) Yeslam Bin Laden is a member of the Enterprise, and is separate and distinct from the Enterprise.
 - (f) Yeslam Bin Laden intended to further the Attack and adopted the goal of furthering and/or facilitating that criminal endeavor, which criminal activity culminated in the September 11, 2001 Attacks.
7. The pattern of racketeering activity conducted by Yeslam Bin Laden is separate from the existence of al Qaeda and Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda, but was a necessary component to the September 11, 2001 Attacks.
 8. The Enterprise conducts terrorism all over the world; the racketeering activity conducted by Yeslam Bin Laden furthers and facilitates that international terrorist and criminal activity, which culminated in the September 11, 2001 Attacks. The usual and daily activities of the Enterprise includes recruitment, indoctrination, financing, material support and the provisioning and operation of al Qaeda training camps, all of which activities are funded or sponsored by the racketeering activities described herein.
 9. The Enterprise benefits by spreading its radical and illegitimate ideology, by suppressing other forms of Islam, and through the gratification of destroying all perceived enemies.
 10. The Enterprise and the racketeering activities conducted by Yeslam Bin Laden, relies heavily on the American interstate system of commerce for banking, financing, supplies, communications, and virtually all essential commercial functions, and in that manner affects interstate commerce. Additionally, the September 11, 2001 Attacks adversely affected interstate commerce. See *Rasul v. Bush*, 124 S. Ct. 2686, No. 03-334, 2004 U.S. LEXIS 4760, * 8 (stating that the Attack “severely damaged the U.S. economy”).
 11. Not applicable.
 12. Not applicable.
 13. Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda “employ” certain individuals, only a few of whose identities are known, including defendant Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda network.
 14. The history of the conspiracy behind Radical Muslim Terrorism and al Qaeda could, and has, filled many books, but for purposes of the present RICO Statement, the following is offered. After being fostered by the Republic of the Sudan until May 1996, al Qaeda established itself in Afghanistan, and relied on well-placed financial facilitators, including but not limited to Yeslam Bin Laden, who laundered funds from Islamic charities and financial institutions, including the so-called charities and corporations, and facilitated the transfer of money through witting and unwitting institutions. (The ‘witting’ are named herein.) They also relied heavily on certain imams at mosques who were willing to divert the zakat, the mandatory charitable contributions required of

Muslims. Al Qaeda also collected money from employees of corrupted charities and financial institutions.

The funds raised were used to, among other things, operate terrorist training camps in Afghanistan, where some recruits were trained in conventional warfare but where the best and most zealous recruits received terrorist training. The curriculum in the camps placed with great emphasis on ideological and religious indoctrination. All trainees and other personnel were encouraged to think creatively about ways to commit mass murder.

The camps were able to operate only because of the worldwide network of recruiters, travel facilitators, and document forgers who vetted recruits and helped them get in and out of Afghanistan in preparation for the September 11, 2001 Attacks. None of this would have been possible without the funds and sponsorship supplied by participants and conspirators including Yeslam Bin Laden. Indeed, the Enterprise would not have been successful without the enthusiastic participation of all of the conspirators, including Yeslam Bin Laden. In order to identify individuals willing, able and trained to carry out the September 11, 2001 Attacks, al Qaeda needed to select from a vast pool of recruits and trainees, which pool would not have been available to it without the assistance provided Yeslam Bin Laden. Yeslam Bin Laden, with knowledge and intent, agreed to the overall objectives of the enterprise or conspiracy, and agreed to commit at least two predicate acts and all agreed to participate in the conspiracy, either expressly or impliedly. Yeslam Bin Laden also, with knowledge and intent, agreed to and did aid and abet all of the above illegal activities, RICO predicate acts, and RICO violations.

15. As the intended targets, plaintiffs have been severely harmed in their business and property through the losses that they have suffered or will suffer.
16. Plaintiffs' damages -- the loss of business and property damage that resulted from defendants' actions -- are direct in that they are not derivative of damage to a third party. The plaintiffs were the "reasonably foreseeable victims of a RICO violation" and the "intended victims of the racketeering enterprise," i.e., international terrorism, the culmination of which was the September 11, 2001 Attacks.
17. The damages sustained for which each defendant is liable include, the total destruction of One World Trade Center, Two World Trade Center, Four World Trade Center, Five World Trade Center and related subgrade spaces and Seven World Trade Center; lost rental income, business interruption and other related losses; property damage to other of plaintiffs' properties; environmental and remediation expenses; potential liability, indemnification, contribution and other payments to third parties for alleged bodily injury, wrongful death, property damage and other claimed injuries; and related costs, professional and other fees, and expenses, in excess of \$12 billion.

18.

I	Anti-Terrorism Act, 18 U.S.C. § 2333
II	RICO, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(a)
III	RICO, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c)
IV	RICO, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(d)
IX	Violation of International Law

19. pendent common law claims:

V	Trespass
VI	Intentional and/or Willful Destruction of Property
VII	Conspiracy
VIII	Aiding and Abetting
	Punitive Damages

20. Not applicable.